MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : If we had money we could have made the teaching satisfactory in the existing schools, and introduced it in more schools.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : So am I to understand that the unsatisfactory nature of the teaching of this subject is due to want of funds?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Partly. One of the difficulties noticed is want of accommodation for teaching.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : And so, it was without providing accommodation for these schools that the introduction has already been made in various schools?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : The Chief Secretary has replied that it is partly due to want of accommodation. May I know the reason?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This is all that is stated by the Director. I have no other information.

Extension of the Muttam channel.

108. **MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR** (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there was a proposal to extend the Muttam channel as far as Muttam village or Eayantenku;

(*b*) if so, whether the alignment is over; and

(*c*) the action taken by the Government thereon?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) An investigation is being conducted.

Inspection of the Trivandrum Railway Customs Office.

109. **MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the nature of the supervision exercised by the Inspector, the Assistant Excise Commissioner and the Excise Commissioner over the Trivandrum Railway Customs Officer and his work; and

(*b*) the number of inspections of the customs office made by each of them during 1106?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The nature of the supervision exercised by the Inspector, Assistant Excise Commissioner and Excise Commissioner over the Trivandrum Railway Customs Officer and his work is more or less the same. It consists in the examination of the records; seeing whether all amounts due to the Government are realised in full and remitted into the treasury and whether the buildings and records are kept neat; and generally insisting on the departmental standing orders and the instructions of superior officers being promptly carried out. Besides this, the

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[Mr. T. K. Madhavan Nayar.]

Inspecting Officers check-weigh goods already weighed by the Customs Officer for assessment of duty and also compare the railway weight with the customs weight.

(*b*) The number of inspections conducted in 1106 by the superior officers is noted below:—

Excise Inspector	10
Assistant Excise Commissioner	9
Excise Commissioner	Nil.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With regard to part (*b*), may I know whether there was any special reason for the Excise Commissioner not to have inspected the Customs House at least once a year?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No specific reason is given. Probably he had no time and was other-wise engaged; or he considered the inspection, already made by the Assistant Excise Commissioner, sufficient.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Are the Government aware that there was fall in the revenue of the Excise Department last year?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): And, should not the Excise Commissioner be more vigilant in the discharge of his duties under these circumstances?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): There was a fall in the Excise Revenue and not Customs Revenue.

Preferential treatment of political prisoners.

110. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have formulated any rules or done anything else with regard to the treatment of political prisoners as distinct from other prisoners, and, if not, whether they propose framing rules therefor as in British India?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Rules 628 A to D were passed in 1924 for dealing with "Speqial Division Prisoners" in the Central Prison. The discretion of selecting prisoners for inclusion in that Division is vested in the convicting court.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): My question is as to whether Government have formulated any special rules for the treatment of political prisoners. The answer is—"Rule 628 A to D were passed in 1924 for dealing with Special Division prisoners." I wish to know whether this Special Division as originally intended was meant for what are called political prisoners or for all classes of prisoners?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Political prisoners are also included in what are called Special Division prisoners.

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